\*\*1. What happens in the story?\*\*

Daniel experiences recurring dreams about his failed marriage to Rachel and the flat they briefly shared. The dreams trouble him despite his current relationship with Isabel. When he confides in her, Isabel suggests visiting the old flat to confront these memories. Together they visit the abandoned apartment, where Daniel processes his past memories—both tender and painful—of his tumultuous relationship with Rachel. The physical confrontation with the space allows him to finally release the hold these memories have on him and fully embrace his future with Isabel.

\*\*2. What is the theme?\*\*

The primary theme is the necessity of confronting and processing past trauma to move forward in life. The story explores how unresolved memories can haunt us, preventing full emotional availability in present relationships. It examines the contrast between passionate but incompatible love versus mature, supportive partnership. Additional themes include the idealization of memory, the evolution from youthful impetuosity to adult wisdom, and the healing power of compassionate support in processing grief over failed relationships.

\*\*3. Does it propose other interpretations, in addition to the literal one?\*\*

Rating: 3 (Neither agree nor disagree)

\*\*4. If the above question was affirmative, which interpretation is it?\*\*

The flat serves as a metaphor for Daniel's emotional state—abandoned, frozen in time, and holding him captive. The "keys" in the title suggest both literal keys to the apartment and metaphorical keys to unlocking emotional closure. The journey to the flat with Isabel represents a therapeutic process of confronting repressed emotions with supportive guidance. However, the symbolism remains fairly surface-level and conventional, lacking the deeper ambiguity or layered meanings that would elevate the story's interpretive richness.